Taking up two projects for voltage stability in Karnataka

*320. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to take up two projects in Karnataka at a cost of Rs. 300 crores to improve voltage stability in Bangalore and the rest of the State;

(b) if so, whether the Power Grid had taken up the above work; and

(c) the details of the project and by when it will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) to (c) A scheme for System Strengthening-III of Southern Region Grid at an estimated cost of Rs. 284.78 crores has been approved in October, 2004. The scheme envisages the following scope of work:

(i) Raichur-Gooty 400 kV Double Circuit line (with Quad Conductors)

(ii) Nelamangla-Somnahally 400 kV D/c line.

(iii) Extension of Gooty, Raichur, Nelamangla and Somnahally substations.

The scheme is scheduled to be completed by April, 2007. The scheme will strengthen the existing transmission network in Southern Region and improve its stability and reliability besides contributing to improve the voltage profile in Bangalore and rest of the State of Karnataka.

The work of the above project has been taken up by Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Defence Imports

2055. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that three fourths of India's needs for military equipment modernisation is met through imports;

(b) whether India is still not able to make its own production, designing and development of equipment;

(c) whether Government is not providing the necessary funds for the above; and

(d) if so, the details about the import and the funds being given thereto?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Defence shipyards, defence public sector undertakings including ordnance factories amongst others, in close coordination with DRDO and other agencies, have been able to produce a large number of defence equipment/items/warships indigenously. Indigenisation of defence equipment has been accorded high priority by the Government and adequate funds are provided for indigenous development and production of various equipment/items/systems for use by the three Services.

Status of APDRP in Karnataka

2056. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state the present status of the Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme for rural Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): The Government have sanctioned rural schemes for four circles *viz.* Belgaum, Bijapur, Mysore and Hubli for funding under Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) during 2002-03. The status of the said four rural circles are as under:

(Rs. in crores)

S. No.	Name of the circle	Project cost	Percentage of work completed	Utilization
1.	Belgaum	153.62	71%	109.32
2.	Bijapur	125.07	66%	82.68
3.	Hubli	239.74	40%	96.11
4.	Mysore	161.6	51%	81.96

Objectives of NCC and TA

2057. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Cadet Corps (NCC) and Territorial Army (TA) were raised as auxiliary manpower among students and youth trained to face emergency situations;

(b) the details of the objectives that led to raising of NCC and TA;